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Bartender slain, feds say

BY HELEN KENNEDY

Daily News Staff Writer

The State Department confirmed yesterday that popular Hamptons bartender Susan McCormick, who died this weekend while on vacationing in Aruba, was slain.

"It is being investigated as a murder," said a spokeswoman for the consular affairs office.

The 47-year-old woman's body was found on a roadside at 1:45 a.m. Saturday near a restaurant called The Steamboat.

McCormick, an accomplished athlete who tended bar at Gator's in Hampton Bays, L.I., was last seen at the popular Aruba eatery. She apparently was shot while walking the half-mile back to her hotel, the Holiday Inn.

Her family was told McCormick, who arrived on the sun-splashed island Wednesday, was shot once in the neck. Her wallet had not been stolen and there was no other sign of robbery, the family was told.

Holiday Inn manager Ramon Peterson insisted Sunday that McCormick had been bit by a car. Yesterday, he refused to discuss her death.

The results of an autopsy performed yesterday were not made public.

McCormick had been booked to fly back to New York today. Her mother and sister were in Aruba yesterday arranging the return of her body.

McCormick's friends and co-workers were puzzled by the mysterious homicide.

A neighbor said McCormick was a careful, independent woman who often traveled solo and knew how to take care of herself. "She wasn't the type to go out carousing and get involved with the wrong man," he added.

Police in Aruba — where tourism has taken a hit from recent hurricanes — did not return numerous telephone messages yesterday.

The State Department warned against expecting quick answers.

"It has not been our experience that these investigations get wrapped up quickly," said the spokeswoman. "They can drag on for quite some time, and there's no guarantee that the perpetrator will ever be brought to justice."

Mystery shrouds bartender's death

A popular Hamptons bartender died under mysterious circumstances over the weekend while vacationing in Aruba.

Officials at the hotel where Susan McCormick was staying said she died in a car accident — but her family was told she was found lying on a roadside with a bullet in her neck.

Aruba police refused yesterday to discuss the death of McCormick, an athletic woman in her early 40s who had tended bar at Gator's in Hampton Bays, L.I., for about eight years.

McCormick's sister Sharon Hoyt was told by police that her sister had been found shot once in the neck, but that her wallet was still on her person and there was no evidence of an attempted robbery.

McCormick was an avid cyclist. In winter, she served on a ski patrol in the Lake Tahoe resort area, rescuing skiers, friends said.

"U-Fall, We-Haul, that's what she called it. She was a lovely, lovely girl, very independent, very strong," said her landlord, Sean Flynn. "She was a really nice person."

ORANJESTAD (AAN): E siman aki un di e corantnan mas grandi di New York, esta

"New York Daily News" a publica diferente noticia encuan to e asesinato misterioso

di e turista Mericano na Aruba den fin di siman cu a

Rudy Croes:

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER MESTER HABRI ATROBE

ORANJESTAD (AAN): E miembro di Parlamento di MEP, Rudy Croes, a relata cu Aruba Entertainment Center mester habri atrobe.

Na 1993, Lotto pa Deporte a yega na un entendimento cu Edmara NV cu ta encera maneho di e Centro aki na un manera comercial, pagando Lotto pa Deporte un suma considerable pa huur. Tambe Edmara NV lo realiza un dak riba e centro y lo percura pa full aircro pa e lugar, pa asina den futuro use no solamente pa shownan musical pero tambe como un Centro di Congreso, International Trade Center, etc.

Segun Croes, nan no a haya oportunidad pasobra Gabinete Eman II ta tratando pa mas cu un aña pa kibra e contrato.

Mientras tanto Juez a dicta sentencia cu e lugar no por sigui funciona pa motibo di boroto/musica duro cu e bandanan ta ocasiona algun famia cu ta biba den cercania.

Prome cu a construi Entertainment Center, semper tabatin presentacion di gruponan musical den Wilhelmstadion y tambe den Don Elias Mansur Sport Park. Nunca tabatin protesta di ningun bisiaña, avor di pronto,

pasobra e tabata un proyecto fabuloso di MEP, algun bisiaña a cuminsa protesta y a lanta casonan contra Gobierno y a gana esakinan tambe. Consecuentemente Entertainment Center a worde cera. "Mi pregunta ta, si tabata e Gobierno di AVP-OLA a construi esaki... lo tabatin protesta?" Croes a bisa.

"Peseu nos di MEP ta apoya pa habri Aruba Entertainment Center atrobe despues di pone dak y aircro. Nos ta contra cu ta dune un otro destino, pasobra nos tin entendi cu e Ministro di Deporte kier cambie y traha un Piscina aden. Di con no a sigui cu e construcion di piscina na Savaneta. Aki tambe Gabinete Eman II a para e trabaoonan. No gasta placa por nada. Si bo kier algo deportivo, termina e Sportshall na Santa Cruz y basta cu castiga e pueblo aki."

Rudy Croes ta suplica pueblo pa nan tur lanta para pa proteha nos Entertainment Center, y pa Gobierno pone un dak riba dje pa asina e por worde habri atrobe.

El a termina bisando: "Ban sostene tur accion pa evita cu e lugar aki lo worde derumba."

DIARIO

pasa.

Den e prome noticia ta indica cu e prome informe ta muestra di ta un accidente di auto, y siguiientemente cu e ta un asesinato.

Mas despues nan a publica un noticia tambe cu Suzan McCormick, un popular Bar-

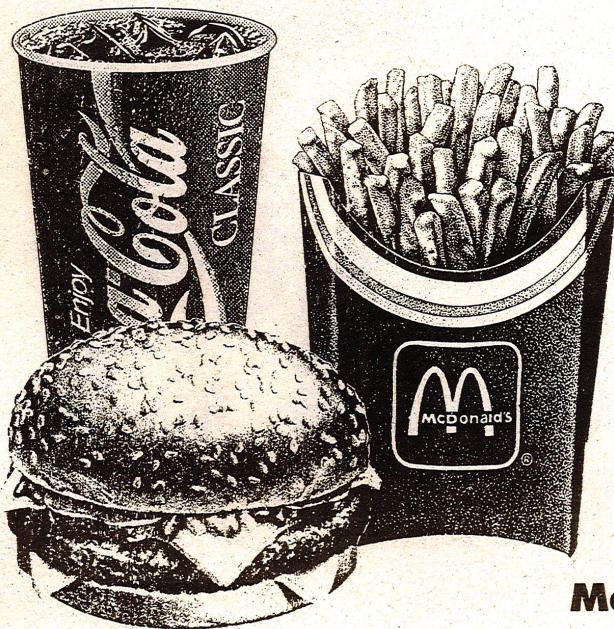
tender na Hampton Bay a ser asesina, y cu e ta ser investiga.

E periodista Helen Kennedy ta indica den nan articulo cu nan a trata di drenta den contacto cu Polis, pero Polis di Aruba no a debolbe nan yamadan.

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